

With the M.O.H's Compliments

In the Library.

CITY OF ROCHESTER.



of post
address

Report as to Urban District

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
GUILDHALL, ROCHESTER,
March 2nd, 1906.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to lay before you the following Report of the Sanitary condition of your District for the year 1905.

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

SIDNEY PRITCHETT.

POPULATION.

The population of the District at the middle of 1905, calculated according to the method of the Registrar General, that is to say, logarithmically, was 32,637, made up as follows :—

Medway locality, 18,520 ;

Strood locality, 14,117

In other words, between the Census of 1901 and the middle of 1905, 4½ years have elapsed, and in that time the population of the whole District has increased by 2,047, that of the Medway locality by 922, and that of the Strood locality by 1,125.

BIRTHS.

During the year, 842 births have been registered, made up as follows :—

	Male	Female.	Total.
Medway	216	230	446
Strood	201	195	396
	417	425	842

This gives a birth rate of 25·7 for the whole District, which is the lowest for many years, and, as far as I know, the lowest on record. It is 1·9 below the average of the past ten years. The birth rate for the Medway locality is about 24, and that for Strood about 28. The natural increase of the population, by excess of births over deaths, amounted to 463. In 1904 it was 381, which is about its normal figure.

DEATHS.

The number of nett deaths in the year, that is of residents dying either within or without the District is 359, made up as follows :

Medway	202
Strood	157
	359

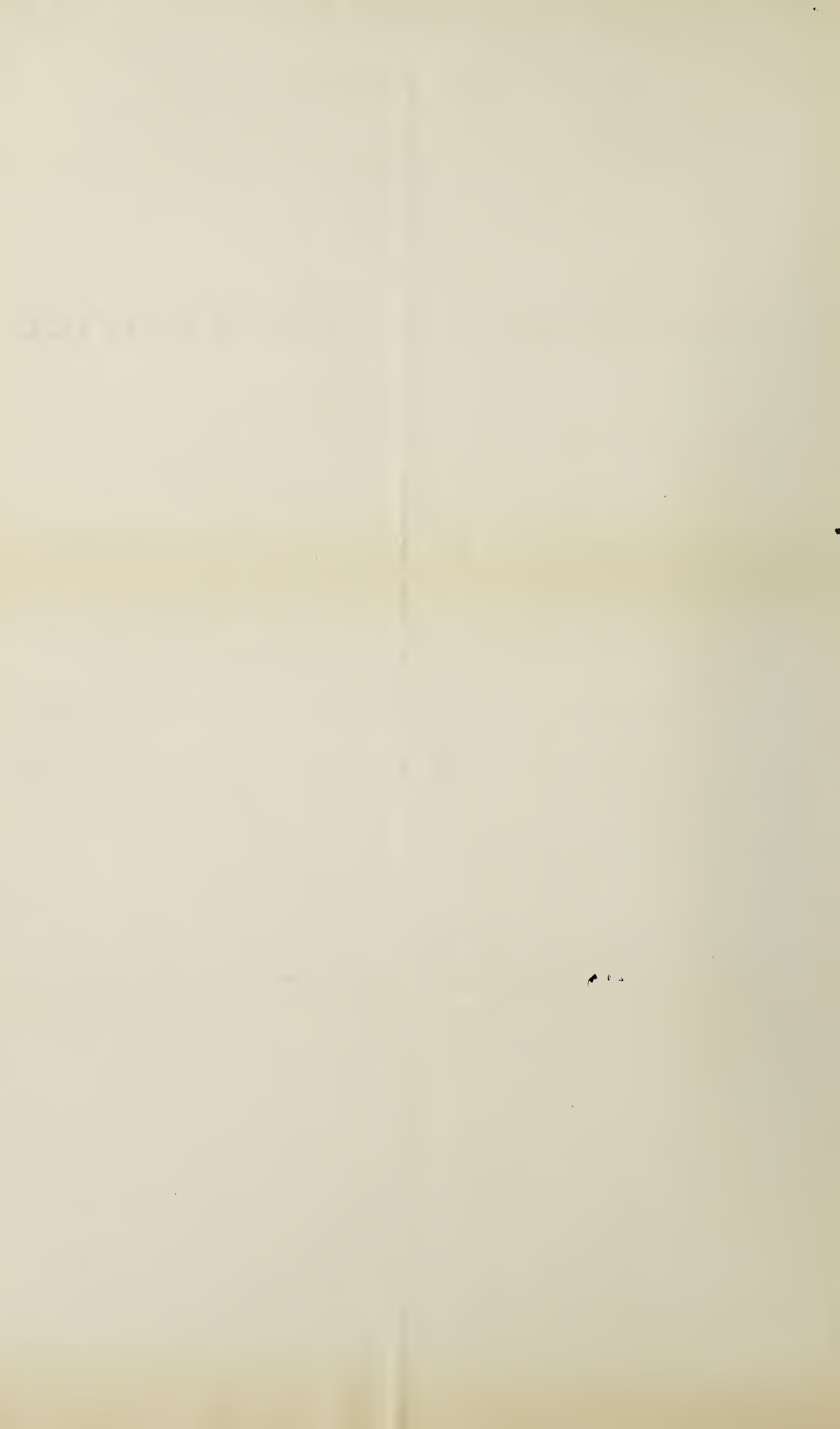
Except in 1903 this is the lowest number on record, and is 101 below the average for the past ten years.

Vital statistics of the whole District and of its component localities, and in which these preliminary figures are elaborated, will be found set forth in the Tables appended to this Report.

The Death Rate for the year was 10·9 per thousand. The Birth Rate was 25·7 per thousand. The Zymotic Death Rate was 1·13 per thousand. The Infant Mortality, per 1,000 births registered, was 110·4.

The following are the Rates per thousand for England and Wales for the year 1905 :

	Birth.	Death (all causes).	Death (Zymotic).	Infant Mortality.
England and Wales	27·9	16·2	1·94	146
Rural England and Wales	26·8	15·3	1·28	125
70 Great Towns	29·1	17·2	2·49	160
142 Smaller Towns	27·5	15·6	2·02	154



THE DEATH RATE.

The Death Rate from all causes and at all ages was 10·9, which is the lowest but one on record, and is about two-thirds of the average of the past 10 years. The following Table shews the two low-rate years of 1903 and 1905, compared with the year 1904, which was about an average-rate year :—

	1903.	1904.	1905.
Measles	2	17	0
Scarlet Fever	0	2	1
Whooping Cough	0	2	10
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	1	4	3
Enteric Fever	6	8	6
Epidemic Influenza	2	1	0
Diarrhœa	9	45	17
Enteritis	8	7	5
Puerperal Fever	0	1	0
Erysipelas	0	2	0
Other septic diseases	14	13	6
Phthisis	31	38	35
Other tubercular diseases	13	15	15
Cancer, malignant disease	25	24	22
Bronchitis	28	56	39
Pneumonia	17	34	22
Pleurisy	0	3	0
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs	4	0	5
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver... .. .	4	4	5
Venereal Diseases	2	1	5
Premature Birth	13	19	14
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	4	4	2
Heart Diseases	29	48	28
Accidents	7	8	12
Suicides	4	1	2
Apoplexy	12	13	16
Not certified	0	15	0
All other causes	97	101	89
	332	486	359

From this Table it appears that the deaths from the following diseases remain about the same in both low-rate and average-rate years, viz. :—

- Enteric Fever
- Phthisis
- Other tubercular diseases
- Cancer
- Alcoholism
- Premature Birth
- Apoplexy

that the low-rate years gain their advantage in fewer deaths from—

- Measles
- Diarrhœa
- Pneumonia
- Bronchitis
- Heart Diseases


Of the first series, Enteric Fever, Phthisis and Other Tubercular Diseases come within the legitimate scope of Sanitary Administration, as do Measles and Diarrhœa in the second series, and, in a smaller degree, Pneumonia and Bronchitis. It is, therefore, reasonable to hope for a diminution in deaths from these diseases in the future ; but this hope will not be fulfilled by the activity of the Sanitary Department alone. The people must be educated in the elementary principles of Hygiene, and this should be done in the Schools. The co-operation of the Educational Authorities with the Health Department is absolutely essential to any prospect of success in materially lessening mortality from a large number of causes, and in improving the physique of such children as survive and who will become the parents of the next generation.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

Table shewing number of Deaths for past ten years :—

Year.	Small Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Enteric Fever.	Diarrhœa.	Total.	Death Rate per 1000.
1896 ..	0	24	9	17	2	7	14	73	2·5
1897 ..	0	0	2	26	15	7	34	84	2·9
1898 ..	0	5	3	1	6	5	37	57	1·9
1899 ..	0	19	8	5	17	3	49	101	3·3
1900 ..	0	1	1	3	5	5	28	43	1·4
1901 ..	0	3	1	9	7	10	22	52	1·6
1902 ..	9	12	2	7	8	3	16	57	1·8
1903 ..	0	2	0	1	0	6	9	18	·56
1904 ..	0	17	2	4	2	8	45	78	2·4
1905 ..	0	0	1	3	10	6	17	37	1·13

The average Death Rate for the past ten years is 1·96.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30038674>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFICATION ACT,

The following Notifications were received during the year :—

Parish.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Enteric Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Total
Strood and Frindsbury ...	24	12	18	18	0	72
St. Margarets ...	15	13	12	10	0	50
St. Nicholas ...	3	6	2	4	0	15
Chatham Intra...	1	0	0	2	0	3
	—	—	—	—	—	—
	43	31	32	34	0	140

Phthisis has been voluntarily notifiable during the year, and the figures relating thereto will be found under the heading of "Phthisis."

From the above Table it will be seen that the Medway Division furnishes 68 Notifications and Strood 72.

The following Table shews from whence the Notifications come, and the average for ten years :—

	Medway.	Strood.	Total.
1895 ...	101	183	284
1896 ...	152	268	420
1897 ...	198	173	371
1898 ...	175	77	252
1899 ...	154	269	423
1900 ...	80	105	185
1901 ...	135	107	242
1902 ...	157	90	247
1903 ...	145	77	222
1904 ...	91	84	175
Average for } years } 1895-1904 }	138.8	143.3	282.1
1905 ...	68	72	140

The reduction in 1904 was remarkable ; this, however, shows a still further reduction, and is not only the lowest on record, whether taken by Localities or as a whole, but is only one half of the average for the past ten years.

This I consider a highly satisfactory state of affairs, not altogether accounted for by climatic conditions, but it will be more prudent to hope, rather than to prophecy, that it will continue. A great determining fact in the incidence of Infectious Disease remains, that as in one year few children are attacked and many escape, so in a following year a greater number of susceptible children are in existence.

SMALL POX.

There were no cases notified during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.

Forty-three cases were notified, and there was one death. Thirty cases were removed to Hospital. In 1904, fifty-six cases were notified and forty-three removed.

This is probably the smallest number on record for a great many years, and represents a very considerable saving in expense to the City, in comparison with former years.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.

There were no deaths from Measles and ten from Whooping Cough. In 1904 these two diseases accounted for nineteen deaths.

These diseases are not notifiable, but I obtain some information respecting them from the Schoolmasters and Mistresses, not so much, however, or so promptly as is desirable. In the Report for 1904 it was strongly urged that no child should be admitted to an Elementary School under the age of 5 years. The Educational Authority have now adopted this rule, and I believe it will be of great service in diminishing Infectious Disease in the District.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.

Thirty-one cases were notified and there were 3 deaths. Twenty-one cases were removed to Hospital. In 1924 44 cases were notified and 16 removed.

Diphtheria is a disease to the prevalence of which insanitary surroundings materially contribute, and so long as the present system of sewage disposal continues in the District, Diphtheria will remain endemic.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Thirty-four cases were notified and there were 6 deaths. Twenty-five cases were removed to Hospital. In 1904 39 cases were notified and 26 removed.

The evidence of specific infection from the consumption of sewage-polluted shell fish was not so strong as in former years. The remarks under the head of Diphtheria with regard to sewage disposal apply to Enteric Fever in an even greater degree.

DIARRHŒA.

There were 17 deaths. In 1904 there were 45 deaths. Early in the summer I drew up a leaflet on "The Feeding and Care of Infants," and these were distributed by your order. The object was to get one of the leaflets into the hands of the mother of each newly-born child, but there is always a difficulty in reaching the mother as soon as is desirable. The Registrars of Births and Deaths send me a list of births from time to time, but as a birth is frequently not registered until the child is nearly three months old, it is obvious that some of the good effect of the leaflets must be lost. However, one is always sent, and to further ensure an early effect, each Midwife in the District is supplied with leaflets and instructed to hand one to every mother she attends in labour.

PHTHISIS.

There were 35 deaths, three less than in 1904. Early in the year Phthisis was made voluntarily notifiable in your District. Thirty-two notifications were received during the year. Since there were 35 deaths and only 32 notifications, it is obvious that the medical practitioners of the district are not fully disposed to second the efforts of the Sanitary Authority to check the spread of this highly infectious and fatal disease. This is a matter of surprise, since it was never proposed to interfere with the liberty of the patient or to regard the information as other than confidential. What is done after a notification is to send the patient a leaflet giving advice as to his general management, and in particular warning him as to the infectivity of his sputum, and also telling him that he may obtain disinfectants at the Guildhall free of charge. It does not appear to me that the slightest objection can be taken to these simple proceedings. Possibly, before long, Phthisis will be made compulsorily notifiable, which is, in my opinion, much to be desired.

Deaths from Phthisis are notified at once by the Registrars, and the rooms in which the patients die are disinfected, as also are bedding, clothing, &c., in many cases.

HORSES AND CATTLE.

Mr. E. Ebbetts, the City Veterinary Inspector, reports that during the year there was one case of Glanders in the District. The infected animal was slaughtered and the carcase buried.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

BAKEHOUSES.—There are 20 of these on the Register ; in 1904 there were 23. Their systematic inspection is carefully kept up, and they are cleaner and in better condition probably than they have ever been before.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.—These number 218 ; in 1904 there were 248. They have all been systematically inspected from time to time, and the following defects discovered and rectified : Overcrowding 2 cases, Want of Cleanliness 13, Insufficient Ventilation 4, Unsuitable or Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation 7, Minor Defects 11, total 37. In 1904 there were 55 defects.

HOMEWORK.—Registered premises in which Homework is carried on shew a further reduction, the number now being only 47 ; in 1904 it was 78, and in 1903 87. All have been systematically inspected and found generally clean.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Two milkshops have been struck off the register, and two added, the number remaining as in 1904—namely, 35. Milk is sold in a large number of general shops, whose atmosphere consists of a varied mixture of dust and odours from vegetables, firewood, petroleum, &c. No effort is spared to induce these milk-vendors to discontinue the sale of milk, and often with success, but in the absence of further legislation the weeding out will be a slow process. Very great care is taken, by frequent systematic inspections, to ensure the highest degree of cleanliness under the circumstances, and the requirements of your officials are, on the whole, I believe, faithfully carried out.

COWSHEDS.—There are 12 of these, and all have been inspected from time to time. They are generally in a far more satisfactory condition than was formerly the case, although there still remain 2, as in 1904, in which, for sufficient reasons, the structural alterations required have not yet been carried out.

My intention, expressed in the Report for 1904, with regard to ascertaining the sources of the whole milk supply of your District, has met with unexpected difficulties, but further attempts will be made in this direction to arrive at, at all events, an approximate conclusion.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

The number of these has diminished from 11 to 9, that is to say that for the greater part of the year 9 only were in active occupation. All have been systematically inspected, and are cleaner and better kept than at the time of my last Report. But no amount of cleanliness that can be reached under existing conditions of locality and structure will remove the desirability of the establishment of a Public Abattoir in the District.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

All have been fumigated as in previous years ; 5621 school slates were sterilized at the Corporation Depot.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Analysis performed under the Act during the year :

Samples analysed.	Result.	Action Taken.	Samples analysed.	Result.	Action Taken.	Samples analysed.	Result.	Action Taken.
1 Rum	Pure	Nil	25 Milk	Pure	Nil	49 Milk	Pure	Nil
2 "	"	"	26 "	Adulterated	Cautioned	50 Butter	"	"
3 Butter	"	"	27 Butter	Pure	Nil	51 "	"	"
4 "	"	"	28 Oatmeal	"	"	52 "	"	"
5 Milk	Adulterated	Fined £2 9 6	29 Tapioca	"	"	53 "	"	"
6 "	"	Nil—Test Case	30 Cheese	"	"	54 "	"	"
7 "	Pure	Nil	31 Oatmeal	"	"	55 "	"	"
8 "	"	"	32 Sago	"	"	56 Tea	"	"
9 "	"	"	33 Cheese	"	"	57 Butter	"	"
10 Lard	"	"	34 Milk	"	"	58 "	"	"
11 "	"	"	35 "	Adulterated	Fined £3 0 0	59 Milk	"	"
12 "	"	"	36 Vinegar	Pure	Nil	60 "	"	"
13 Milk	"	"	37 "	Adulterated	Cautioned	61 Butter	"	"
14 "	Adulterated	Cautioned	38 "	Pure	Nil	62 Cheese	"	"
15 "	Pure	Nil	39 White Pepper	"	"	63 Milk	"	"
16 "	Adulterated	Fined £4 11 0	40 "	"	"	64 "	"	"
17 "	Pure	Nil	41 Lard	"	"	65 "	Adulterated	Fined £2 0 0
18 "	"	"	42 Butter	Adulterated	Fined £2 0 0	66 Butter	Pure	Nil
19 Flour	"	"	43 "	Pure	Nil	67 Milk	"	"
20 Oatmeal	"	"	44 "	"	"	68 "	"	"
21 Arrowroot	"	"	45 "	Adulterated	Fined £2 0 0	69 "	Adulterated	Nil—Test Case
22 Flour	"	"	46 "	"	Fined £2 0 0	70 "	"	Cautioned
23 Oatmeal	"	"	47 Milk	"	Fined £12 8 0	71 "	"	Fined £1 10 0
24 Arrowroot	"	"	48 "	Pure	Nil	72 "	"	Fined £1 8 0

These samples were taken at the rate of six a month. As was the case in former years, milk is again the food most commonly adulterated in this District. Of 29 samples 10 were found to be impure, giving a percentage of 34·4, or within '2 of the result in 1904. Of the 10 cases 7 were serious, and more or less heavy fines were inflicted. One case was particularly grave, as the milk vendor obstructed the officer in the discharge of his duty. For this offence he was fined an additional £10 and 12s. costs.

Butter is another article of food in respect of which several prosecutions took place ; 18 samples were taken and 3 found to be adulterated. In each of these cases a fine of £2, including costs, was imposed.

It is to be hoped that the Magistrates will continue to inflict heavy fines in these cases, as the most potent means of stopping food adulteration is to make it unprofitable. A person who has probably been selling an impure article for double its value for many months can well afford to pay a big penalty on discovery.

Percentage of all adulterations—1905, 22·2 ; 1904, 22·1 ; 1903, 33·3.

LOCAL RAINFALL IN 1905.

By the courtesy of the City Surveyor I am able to give the following information, which was obtained at Strood Waterworks, situated in the District :

Month.	Total Depth. Inches.	Greatest fall in 24 hours. Depth.	Date.	Number of days on which '01 or more fell.
January	'93	'43	16	10
February	'64	'22	26	13
March	2'42	'42	10	19
April	1'96	'64	10	19
May	1'24	'40	1	9
June	4'58	1'17	5	16
July	'38	'13	23	6
August	1'96	'42	28	15
September... ..	2'03	'28	28	13
October	1'34	'62	30	10
November	2'78	'56	1	19
December	'52	'15	29	10
	20'78			159

In 1904, 20 17 inches of rain fell, and in the months in which Epidemic Diarrhœa is most prevalent, that is to say July, August and September, 4'27 inches. In the same months in 1905, 4'37 inches fell. There were 45 deaths from Epidemic Diarrhœa in 1904, but only 17 in 1905, although the climatic conditions were practically identical. Further reference will be found to this under the heading of Diarrhœa.

BACK-TO-BACK HOUSES.

There was a special report last year with reference to these, and further observations have been kept during 1905. The number of such houses and their population remain about the same, and the following short table shews the state of affairs at the present time :

	1904.	1905.
Number of deaths	20	12
Death Rate	23'7	14'2
Deaths of Adults over 15 years	9	4
Deaths of Children under 15 years	11	8
Number of deaths from tubercular or lung disease	12	3

As in 1904 this shews a death rate much higher than that of the District as a whole.

MAIN DRAINAGE.

Difficulties have arisen with regard to the proposed site, near the Gas House, for the Outfall Works, and no definite progress has been made with regard to any other site. Conferences have been held with the neighbouring authority of Chatham with view to the adoption of a Joint Scheme, but without result up to the present.

MIDWIVES ACT, 1902.

There are 12 Midwives practising in the District registered under this Act, which is 2 more than in 1904. I have visited them from time to time, and examined their books and appliances. Some are perfectly satisfactory, and others, I am afraid, incorrigible, so far as impenetrable ignorance and illiteracy are concerned. However, these latter have, so far, managed to escape any serious infringement of the rules, and, I suppose, are better than none, since they are under supervision, whereas previously they were practising without any supervision at all. The Act entitles them to practise, and those who have to administer the Act must make the best they can of it, encouraged by the knowledge that in the future matters must, by the working of the Act, improve.

Three cases of Still Births, and four intimations of sending for medical aid, were notified during the year. No case of Puerperal Fever was notified during the year.

UNSOUND FOOD.

A carcase of beef, extensively infiltrated with tubercle, was condemned and destroyed. No magisterial proceedings were necessary.

DOGS.

I desire to put on record that in my opinion the extraordinary number of dogs to be seen wandering about the streets of your District constitutes a serious addition to the difficulties of maintaining a high sanitary level. The habits of these animals are more disgusting than those of any other creature, and every person living in a town, unless he has a large garden where his dogs may be turned out, should realise that if he keeps a dog or dogs he is in some degree contributing to a filthy and dangerous nuisance.

NUISANCES REMEDIED.

Houses without drains or reconstructed	125	Privies, defective pits	49
Houses provided with new W.C's.	25	Privies, constructed	0
Houses provided with ash pits or dust bins	13	Cesspools, insufficient accommodation	30
Houses provided with shooting or repaired	123	Cesspools, defective	65
Houses cleansed and whitewashed	40	Cesspools, unventilated	54
Houses fumigated	98	Cesspools, constructed	31
Houses overcrowded	27	Soil pipes and drains ventilated	51
Houses unfit for habitation... ..	0	Old pan closets with container and D trap removed	12
House roofs repaired	131	Urinals altered and repaired	5
Drains trapped and ventilated	135	Sink and other waste pipes disconnected from drains	101
Drains repaired and cleansed	211	Stables drained and paved	10
Drains, stoppage in	160	Yards of dwellings provided with new concrete paving or repaired	119
Drains, defective traps removed and trappel stoneware gullies fixed	326	Yards and Premises in dirty condition	8
Water Closets substituted for privies	20	Manure removed	26
Water Closets provided with water supply and flushing apparatus	62	Cowsheds, Bakehouses and Slaughter houses cleansed... ..	15
Water Closets repaired and cleansed	45	Remove pigs, poultry and other animals	49
Water Closets, defective water fittings	71		
Privies, dangerous and defective structure	42		
			2279

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES and HOMEWORK

1.—Inspection.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	4	2	
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	489		
Workplaces	120		
Homeworkers' Premises...	141		
Total	754		

2.—Defects Found.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	13	13		
Want of Ventilation	4	4		
Overcrowding	2	2		
Want of drainage of floors	0	0		
Other Nuisances	11	11		
Sanitary accommodations {	insufficient ...	1	1	
	unsuitable or defective	6	6	
	not separate for sexes	0	0	
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101)				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bake-houses (SS. 97 to 100)				
Failure as regard lists of outworkers (S. 107)				
Giving out work to be done in premises which are {	unwholesome (S. 108) ...			
	infected (S. 110) ...			
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in premises infected by scarlet fever or smallpox (S. 109)				
Other offences				
Total	37	37		

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.							Number.	
Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories :—								
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133) ...								
Action taken in matters referred by H M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act, (S. 5)							Notified by H.M. Inspectors Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors.	2
								2
Other								
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101) :—								
Certificates granted during the year								
In use at the end of the year								
Homework :—							Number of	
<i>Lists of Outworkers*</i> (S. 107) :—							Lists.	Outworkers.
Lists received							10	47
Addresses of outworkers ... { forwarded to other Authorities ...							14	
							38	
<i>Homework in unwholesome or infected premises :—</i>							Wearing Apparel ;	Other.
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (S. 108) ...								
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises ...								
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (S. 110) ...								
Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of the year							218	
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bake-houses may be enumerated here. {								
Total number of Workshops on Register ...							218	

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1905 and previous Years.

ROCHESTER—FOR WHOLE DISTRICT.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.					Number	Rate*
				Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	Number	Rate*					
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895	28010	792	28.2	124	156	488	17.4	117	76	16	428	15.2
1896	28440	818	28.7	112	136	564	19.8	161	112	11	463	16.2
1897	28870	794	27.5	117	147	481	16.6	133	90	14	405	14.0
1898	29300	800	27.3	145	182	638	21.7	191	151	22	509	17.3
1899	29730	809	27.2	161	199	642	21.5	194	113	21	550	18.4
1900	30160	813	26.9	136	167	582	19.2	182	131	18	469	15.5
1901	30590	864	28.2	122	141.2	556	18.1	141	107	17	466	14.9
1902	31104	878	28.2	127	144.6	620	19.9	209	135	11	496	15.9
1903	31656	865	27.3	77	89	440	13.8	160	125	17	332	10.4
1904	32142	867	26.9	124	143	582	18.1	158	115	19	486	15.1
Averages for years 1895-1904	30000	830	27.6	124	150.4	559	18.6	164	115	16	460	15.2
1905	32637	842	25.7	93	110.4	445	13.6	149	105	19	359	10.9

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums. A list of the Institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made should be given on the back of this Table.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) { 2,715.

Total population at all ages, 30,590.

Number of inhabited houses, 6,236.

Average number of persons per house, 4.9.

} At Census of 1901.

[P.T.O

I. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	II. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	III Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
St. Bartholomew's General, Hospital, Rochester Union Workhouse Infirmary, Strood St. William's Infectious Hospital, Rochester Fort Pitt Military Hospital, Rochester	Medway Union Workhouse Infirmary, Chatham	
<i>Is the Union Workhouse within the District?</i> That for Strood Locality is, but that for the Medway Locality is not.		

Table II. Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1905 and previous years.

ROCHESTER DISTRICT.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.		WHOLE DISTRICT.				MEDWAY.				STROOD.			
YEAR.		Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1895	...	28010	792	428	124	16401	392	244	47	11609	400	184	77
1896	...	28440	818	463	112	16600	403	255	50	11840	415	208	62
1897	...	28870	794	405	117	16799	405	243	68	12071	389	162	49
1898	...	29300	800	509	145	16998	402	287	66	12302	398	222	79
1899	...	29730	809	550	161	17197	415	309	79	12533	394	241	82
1900	...	30160	813	469	136	17396	393	262	71	12764	420	207	65
1901	...	30590	864	466	122	17598	436	253	47	12992	428	213	75
1902	...	31104	878	496	127	17893	460	289	63	13211	418	207	64
1903	...	31656	865	332	77	18080	452	182	38	13576	413	150	39
1904	...	32142	867	486	124	18299	427	262	55	13843	440	224	69
Averages of Years 1895 to 1904		30000	830	460	124.5	17326	418	258	58.4	12674	412	202	66.1
1905	...	32637	842	359	93	18520	446	202	43	14117	396	157	50

Table III. Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1905.

ROCHESTER DISTRICT.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.					Cases Notified in Whole District.							Total Cases Notified in each Locality.		No. of Cases re- moved to Hospital from each Locality.	
					At all Ages	At Ages—Years.						MEDWAY	STROOD	MEDWAY (H.)	STROOD (W.)
						Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65	65 and upwards				
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	31	...	8	15	4	3	1	19	12	14	7
Membranous Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	32	..	...	6	2	21	3	14	18	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	43	...	12	26	4	1	...	19	24	15	15
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	34	...	5	8	8	13	...	16	18	11	11
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis	...	...	...	...	32	...	...	4	14	14	..	26	6	...	...
Total	...	...	...	...	172	...	25	59	32	52	4	94	78	40	36

TABLE IV.
ROCHESTER DISTRICT.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1905.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to Localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District.								Total Deaths whether of Residents or non-Residents in public institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Medway	Strood.	11	12	13	14	15	16	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10							17
Small-pox ...																
Measles ...																
Scarlet fever ...	1			1				1								1
Whooping-cough ...	10	6	4					4	6							
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ...	3		2	1					3							4
Fever { Typhus ...																
Enteric ...	6				1	5		1	5							9
Other continued ...																
Epidemic influenza ...																
Cholera ...																
Plague ...																
Diarrhœa ...	17	12	5					5	12							
Enteritis ...	5	3	1				1	5								
Puerperal fever ...																
Erysipelas ...																
Other septic diseases ...	6			1	4	1		4	2							11
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	35			2	12	21		27	8							4
Other tubercular diseases ...	15	8	5	1		1		6	9							7
Cancer, malignant disease ...	22					12	10	18	4							7
Bronchitis ...	39	9	3			6	21	19	20							13
Pneumonia ...	22	5	7		1	5	4	15	7							6
Pleurisy ...																
Other diseases of Respiratory organs ...	5	1	1			3			5							2
Alcoholism {																
Cirrhosis of liver ...	5					5		3	2							2
Venereal diseases ...	5	4				1		3	2							3
Premature birth ...	14	14						9	5							
Diseases and accidents of parturition ...	2				1	1			2							2
Heart diseases ...	28				4	10	14	15	13							15
Accidents ...	12	1		3	2	5	1	9	3							20
Suicides ...	2				1		1		2							2
Apoplexy ...	16					5	11	12	4							
.....																
.....																
.....																
All other causes...	89	30	2	1	1	15	40	46	43							41
All causes ...	359	93	30	10	27	96	103	202	157							149

TABLE V
ROCHESTER DISTRICT.

Infantile Mortality during the year 1905.—Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.				Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-2 months.	2-3 months.	3-4 months.	4-5 months.	5-6 months.	6-7 months.	7-8 months.	8-9 months.	9-10 months.	10-11 months.	11-12 months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES.	{	Certified	8	5	7	1	21	14	4	7	3	1	9	7	4	8	6	4	88	
		Uncertified	2				2		1	1		1							5	
Common Infectious Diseases	{	Small Pox																		
		Chicken Pox																		
		Measles																		
		Scarlet Fever																		
		Diphtheria : Croup																		
Diarrhœal Diseases	{	Whooping Cough								1	1		1	1		1		1	6	
		Diarrhœa, all forms								1	2		2	3	1	3			12	
		Enteritis (not Tuberculous)								1					1				2	
		Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh		1			1		1		1								3	
		Premature Birth	7	1	3	1	12	2											14	
Wasting Diseases	{	Congenital Defects			1		1	1											2	
		Injury at Birth...																		
		Want of Breast Milk												1					1	
Tuberculous Diseases	{	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus							1					1			1	2	5	
		Tuberculous Meningitis																		
		Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica							2						1				1	4
		Other Tuberculous Diseases							1			1		1						3
		Erysipelas																		
		Syphilis...			1		1	1	2											4
		Rickets																1		1
		Meningitis (not Tuberculous)...									1									1
		Convulsions	1		1		2			2		1				1	1	1		8
		Bronchitis							2					2	1	1	1	2		9
	{	Laryngitis													1				1	
		Pneumonia								1			1	1		1		1	5	
		Suffocation, overlaying											1						1	
		Other causes	2	3	1		6	4		1										11
						10	5	7	1	23	14	5	8	3	2	9	7	4	8	6	4	93

WHOLE DISTRICT.

Births in the year

Legitimate

Illegitimate

808
34

Population (estimated to middle of 1905) 32,637.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 359.

TABLE V
ROCHESTER DISTRICT.

Infantile Mortality during the year 1905.—Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.				Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-2 months.	2-3 months.	3-4 months.	4-5 months.	5-6 months.	6-7 months.	7-8 months.	8-9 months.	9-10 months.	10-11 months.	11-12 months.	Total Deaths under One Year.	
ALL CAUSES.	{	Certified	5	4	4	1	14	5	4	3	2			2	2	2	3	1	2	40	
		Uncertified	1				1		1	1											3
Common Infectious Diseases	{	Small Pox																			
		Chicken Pox																			
		Measles																			
		Scarlet Fever																			
		Diphtheria: Croup																			
Diarrhœal Diseases	{	Whooping Cough										1							1	2	
		Diarrhœa, all forms							1	2										3	
		Enteritis (not Tuberculous)							1							1				2	
		Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh		1			1		1			1								3	
		Premature Birth	5		2	1	8	1												9	
Wasting Diseases	{	Congenital Defects			1		1													1	
		Injury at Birth...																			
		Want of Breast Milk												1						1	
Tuberculous Diseases	{	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus						1									1	1		3	
		Tuberculous Meningitis																			
		Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica							1							1				2	
		Other Tuberculous Diseases																			
		Erysipelas																			
Other Causes	{	Syphilis			1		1		2											3	
		Rickets																			
		Meningitis (not Tuberculous)...																			
		Convulsions										1								1	
		Bronchitis							1						1	1	1	1		5	
		Laryngitis																			
		Pneumonia										1					1		1	3	
		Suffocation, overlaying																			
		Other causes	1	3			4	1												5	
				6	4	4	1	15	5	5	4	2		2	2	2	3	1	2	43	

District (or Sub-Division) of MEDWAY LOCALITY.

Births in the year { Legitimate 439 Population (estimated to middle of 1905) 18,520.
 { Illegitimate 7

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 202.

TABLE V
ROCHESTER DISTRICT.

Infantile Mortality during the year 1905.—Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.				Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-2 months.	2-3 months.	3-4 months.	4-5 months.	5-6 months.	6-7 months.	7-8 months.	8-9 months.	9-10 months.	10-11 months.	11-12 months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES.	Certified	3	1	3				7	9		4	1	1	7	5	2	5	5	2	48
	Uncertified	1						1					1							2
Common Infectious Diseases	Small Pox																			
	Chicken Pox																			
	Measles																			
	Scarlet Fever																			
	Diphtheria: Croup																			
Diarrhoeal Diseases	Whooping Cough										1			1	1		1			4
	Diarrhœa, all forms													2	3	1	3			9
	Enteritis (not Tuberculous)																			
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																			
	Premature Birth	2	1	1				4	1											5
Wasting Diseases	Congenital Defects								1											1
	Injury at Birth...																			
	Want of Breast Milk																			
Tuberculous Diseases	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus													1				1		2
	Tuberculous Meningitis																			
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica								1										1	2
	Other Tuberculous Diseases								1			1		1						3
	Erysipelas																			
	Syphilis...								1											1
	Rickets																	1		1
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)...										1									1
	Convulsions	1		1				2			1		1				1	1	1	7
	Bronchitis								1					1				2		4
	Laryngitis															1				1
	Pneumonia													1	1					2
	Suffocation, overlaying												1							1
	Other causes	1		1				2	3		1									6
				4	1	3		8	9		4	1	2	7	5	2	5	5	2	50

District (or Sub-Division) of STROOD LOCALITY.

Births in the year { Legitimate 369 - Population (estimated to middle of 1905) 14,117.
 { Illegitimate 27

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 157.

ST. WILLIAM'S HOSPITAL AND SMALL POX ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

One hundred and sixty cases were admitted during the year, being 27 less than in 1904. The average for the last ten years is 272·1.

ROCHESTER.

Ages.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Small Pox.	Total.
Under 5	6	3	4	0	13
Five and upwards	24	18	21	0	63

CHATHAM.

Under 5	6	4	0	0	10
Five and upwards	23	11	20	3	57

FROM NEIGHBOURING AUTHORITIES.

Under 5	0	1	0	0	1
Five and upwards	8	6	2	0	16
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	67	43	47	3	160

Number of cases from each district :—

Rochester	76
Chatham	67
Neighbouring...	17
	<hr/>
	160

Several cases were found, after one or two days' observation, to be other than supposed, and were accordingly discharged as soon as possible. Whenever it was thought necessary, bacteriological examinations were made for the confirmation, or the reverse, of the diagnosis of Enteric Fever or Diphtheria.

The Mortality was as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	1 or 1·6 per cent.
Diphtheria ...	2 or 4·6 per cent.
Enteric Fever	6 or 12·7 per cent.

In making out these percentages the cases considered to be wrongly diagnosed have not been included. The figures, so far as they go, are quite satisfactory, but as the numbers dealt with are so small, too much importance should not be attached to them.

Average number of days detained in Hospital :—

Scarlet Fever	49·8
Diphtheria...	26
Enteric Fever	52·6

Deaths are not included in these averages, nor are cases wrongly diagnosed.





Report as to Port Sanitary District.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
GUILDHALL, ROCHESTER.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PORT SANITARY COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to lay before you a Report of the Sanitary Work performed during the year 1905.

The following information respecting the actual number of vessels entering the Port was supplied by the courtesy of Mr. A. S. Williams, Collector of H. M. Customs, Rochester.

Total number of Vessels from Foreign Ports	...	...	...	271
Number inspected	...	...	...	250
Number not inspected	...	...	...	21
Total number of Vessels with Cargoes coming Coastwise				1225
„ „ in ballast	...	...	...	176
				<hr/>
				1401
Number inspected	...	...	...	1051
Number not inspected	...	...	...	350

The Vessels inspected in the Port were as follows :—

FOREIGN TRADE—		British Steam	...	50	Sailing	...	81
		Foreign Steam	...	47	Sailing	...	72
				<hr/>			
				97	<hr/>		
					153		
COASTING TRADE—		British Steam	...	749	Sailing	...	279
		Foreign Steam	...	19	Sailing	...	4
				<hr/>			
				768	<hr/>		
					283		
Total Steam		...	865.	Total Sailing		...	436

The following were also boarded by the Sanitary Inspector and his Assistant :—

Barges	...	1621
Canal Boats	...	652
Lighters	...	26
Fishing Boats	..	31
Water Boats	...	2
		<hr/>
		2332

Total number of Vessels inspected ...	3633
In 1904 the number was ...	3029

NUMBER AND NATIONALITY OF VESSELS :—

British, 3491 ; Norwegian, 54 ; Dutch, 16 ; Russian, 14 ; German, 13 ; Newfoundland, 1 ;
Chilian, 3 ; Danish, 14 ; Swedish, 14 ; Italian, 2 ; French, 7 ; Belgian, 4 ; Total, 3633.

REPORT AS TO THE EXECUTION OF THE CANAL BOATS ACTS FOR THE YEAR 1905.

Name and Address of Inspector—HENRY EVANS, 84, Weston Road, Strood, Rochester.

Remuneration—£4 per annum.

The Inspector is on the River daily and overhauls the boats when he comes across them. In addition to this, many of them are periodically visited by the Medical Officer of Health. These boats are chiefly employed in carrying coals from ship to wharf in the River Medway, and seldom leave the district. A few, however, trade to Tonbridge, London and intermediate places.

No boats have been detained during the year.

Number of new boats registered	...	...	6
„ boats re-registered owing to structural alterations	...	...	0
„ boats re-registered for other reasons	...	...	8
„ boats registered at December 31st, 1905			269
<hr/>			
Number of women on boats inspected	...	...	28
„ children between 5 and 12	...	...	3
„ „ under 5	...	...	2
<hr/>			
Number of boats inspected	...	...	652
„ „ conforming to Acts and Regulations			541
„ „ with one or more infringements	...	...	111
<hr/>			
Total number of infringements	...	...	169
Number of infringements remedied	...	...	166

CLASSIFIED LIST OF INFRINGEMENTS.

Absence of Certificate, Act 77, Sec. 3	...	...	3
Certificate not identifying owner with boat	...	...	8
Marking, Act 77, Sec. 3	...	...	19
Cleanliness, Reg. 11	...	...	59
Dilapidated, Reg. 11	...	...	3
Painting, Reg. 9	...	...	15
Light and Ventilation, Reg. 3	...	...	10
Defective floors and Bulkheads	...	...	7
Bilges under cabin floors to cleanse	..	...	3
Sleeping berths to paint or limewash	...	...	4
Defective skylights and scuttles	...	...	13
No proper water vessels	...	...	2
No proper sleeping berths	...	..	3
Leaky decks causing wet berths	...	...	3
Food cupboards to limewash	...	...	9
Overcrowded	...	...	1
Separation of sex	...	...	1
Stoves and funnels to renew	...	...	3
Defective seat lockers and panelling	...	...	3
			<hr/>
			169
			<hr/>

GENERAL SANITARY WORK OF THE PORT.

Systematic Inspections of the Shipping in the Port are made by me, and vessels specially visited as occasion seems to require.

Water Boats.—Two of these are employed in supplying ships with water for drinking purposes. The water supplied is from one or other of the two Public Water Works of the City. The tanks are cleansed four times a year, and have been inspected fourteen times during the year.

Cases of Sickness.—44 cases of sickness came under notice on board vessels in the river, and in each case a private doctor was advised or the patient removed to Hospital.

The cases were—Colds 9, Accidents 5, Lumbago 2, Rupture 2, Rheumatism 3, Pleurisy 1, Liver complaint 1, Blood poisoning 2, Influenza 5, Fireman's cramp 1, Heart Disease 1, Neuralgia 2, Debility 1, Apoplexy 1, Quinsy 1, Inflammation of eyes 1, Venereal disease 3.

1 Fatal accident removed to Hospital.

1 Rheumatic fever „

1 Scarlet fever „

The case of Scarlet Fever was removed from H.M.S. “Challenger” to St. William's Hospital, the Naval Authorities agreeing to bear all expenses connected therewith.

Your Inspector attends to the removal of serious cases. Both he and his Assistant have knowledge of the principles of first aid to the sick and injured.

Vessels from Infected Ports.—The following vessels were specially boarded by me on account of coming from infected Ports or having suspicious cases of sickness on board :—

March 15.—s.s. “Texel” arrived from River Plate. The crew were mustered, physically inspected and found all well. Drinking water tanks were emptied, liquid cemented and refilled with fresh water. Disinfectants were used where necessary as a precaution.

May 30.—s.s. “Haworth” arrived from Leith. The crew were physically examined and found all well. The vessel had been thoroughly fumigated before leaving Leith on account of a case of plague having been discovered on shore.

June 30.—Italian sailing ship “Lamanco” from River Plate. Crew physically examined and found all well. The ship's peaks, lazarette and store rooms were disinfected ; the bilges disinfected and pumped dry. The drinking water tanks were emptied, cleansed and refilled.

August 11.—The sailing ship “Albion” arrived from Panama. The crew were physically examined and found all well. The vessel had called at Falmouth en route to Rochester, where she was cleansed and disinfected.

October 10.—H.M.S. “Challenger,” lying off Gun Wharf at Chatham Dockyard. A case of Scarlet Fever was removed from this vessel to St. William’s Hospital. The cabins, alleyway, W.C. and sinks were thoroughly disinfected and no further case arose.

November 28.—s.s. “Ramleh” from Alexandria, a Plague and Cholera infected port. Crew physically examined and found all well. During her stay in the Port the vessel was visited every day, and a close watch kept on the health of the crew. The bilges, forecastles and W.C.’s were disinfected. A stowaway was taken to the Police Station, where I physically examined him.

Passengers.—As far as known 73 passengers arrived on ships from foreign, and 116 on vessels from coastwise.

Cargoes.—Grain, flour, sugar, fruit, potatoes and fish were examined and found in good condition, except several bags of potatoes which were taken out to sea and thrown overboard.

The nuisance mentioned in last year’s report with regard to manure at Otterham Quay and Halstow has been less, but still needs supervision.

Riverside Factories have been visited as usual, and observation kept on the sanitary accommodation provided for the men employed.

Hospital Ship “Elk.”—The “Elk” has been cleaned and painted throughout, and is in admirable condition for the reception of either sick or contacts.

During the year your Inspector and his Assistant have carried out their duties to my complete satisfaction.

The following table shews the number of notices served by the Port Sanitary Inspector during the year on vessels other than canal boats, and the nuisances met and dealt with :—

			Foreign.	Coast.	Barges.	Total.
Forecastles or cabins to cleanse ...	...	...	59	135	162	356
Forecastle or cabins to paint or limewash ...	...	...	6	19	10	35
Defective light in cabins or forecastles ...	...	...	5	21	6	32
Defective ventilation in cabins or forecastles ...	...	...	1	3	15	19
Defective ventilation of holds ...	...	...	0	1	0	1
Leaky decks causing wet berths ...	...	...	1	17	37	55
Drinking water tanks condemned ...	...	...	2	1	0	3
Drinking water tanks to cleanse ...	...	...	13	39	73	125
Defective bulkheads ...	...	...	1	5	2	8
Insufficient sleeping accommodation ...	...	...	1	16	0	17
Insufficient water storage ...	...	...	1	2	1	4
To provide stoves or funnels for cabin or forecandle ...	...	...	2	14	9	25
To cleanse hammocks or bedding ...	...	...	12	7	3	22
To remove ship’s stores from crew space ...	...	...	2	8	0	10
To remove lamps from sleeping berths ...	...	...	0	1	4	5
To remove paints from forecandle ...	...	...	0	1	0	1
W.C.’s to cleanse or disinfect ...	...	...	23	51	0	74
Peaks and lazarettes to cleanse or limewash ...	...	...	3	9	0	12
Side scuttles and deck prisms to refit ...	...	...	5	31	3	39
Bilges to cleanse or disinfect ...	...	...	4	0	16	20
Iron decks over berths to line ...	...	...	1	0	0	1
Defective floors in cabin or forecastles ...	...	...	1	3	5	9
Hawse pipes leaking into forecandle ...	...	...	2	7	0	9
Leaky paul or windlass bits ...	...	...	4	17	0	21
Food cupboards to cleanse, ventilate or limewash ...	...	...	15	10	21	46
Defective W.C. pans and fittings ...	...	...	1	6	0	7
Cable stages to cleanse or limewash ...	...	...	2	6	0	8
Dirty old beds destroyed (burnt) ...	...	...	1	0	0	1
Defective scuppers in forecandle ...	...	...	1	3	1	5
Defective skylights ...	...	...	0	2	7	9
Dilapidated cabins ...	...	...	0	0	2	2
Sleeping berths to paint or limewash ...	...	...	0	18	7	25
Overerowing ...	...	...	3	0	1	4
Food cupboards to erect ...	...	...	1	6	0	7
Accumulation of filth to remove from cook-house ...	...	...	2	3	0	5
Accumulation of rubbish to remove from alleyway ...	...	...	4	1	0	5
To provide man-hole door for drinking water tank ...	...	...	0	1	1	2
To provide man-hole door for ballast tank ...	...	...	0	2	0	2
Skylights to glaze ...	...	...	0	1	7	8
Bottom boards to replace in sleeping berths ...	...	...	2	0	9	11
Defective panelling and seat lockers in cabins ...	...	...	0	0	4	4
Dirty old clothes destroyed (burnt) ...	...	...	11	3	1	15
			192	470	407	1069

Vegetables destroyed : Carrots 3 bushels, turnips 2 bushels, potatoes 3 half-bags. These were put in the furnace and burnt in the presence of the Inspector. All notices except 9 were complied with.

Medical Inspection at Sheerness :—

	Vessels inspected.	Not inspected.		Vessels inspected.	Not inspected.
1905 ...	203	47	1903 ...	216	53
1904 ...	180	35	1902 ...	200	55

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
SIDNEY PRITCHETT.

